



7-16-04  
PATENT

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

January 8, 2004  
Anita J. Mals  
SIGNATURE

01-08-04  
DATE

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Alan E. Shluzas  
Serial No. : 10/087,489  
Filing Date : March 1, 2002  
For : AN APPARATUS FOR  
CONNECTING A LONGITUDINAL  
MEMBER TO A BONE PORTION  
Group Art Unit : 3732  
Examiner : Ramana Anuradha  
Attorney Docket No. : A31-6015

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 16, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.

01/13/2004 EFLDRES 00000088 10087489

01 FC:2251  
02 FC:2201

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